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Celebrity Buzz pg 18



'Time thieves' keep Julia busy

Metro Drive pg 13

Suzuki Equator ready to go

Entertainment pg 15



Oscar's big blunders

Riding the Recession

Looking for ways to save money and ride out the economic storm? For the next six weeks, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Travel

• How "recession chic" and bargains are replacing hedonism in the world of travel, pg 14

This week

• Food — Local meals for a steal
• Style — Looking on the bright side of fashion during New York Fashion Week



ShareYourViews

ottawalatters@metronews.ca



A man walks past a security barrier and an RCMP car on Parliament Hill yesterday. Security has been beefed up in advance of U.S. President Barack Obama's visit tomorrow, his first foreign trip since taking over the White House last month. Coverage, page 3.

'Heartfelt thanks' for Afghanistan: Obama

U.S. president won't ask PM to extend withdrawal from battlezone

Obama's Visit

A dramatic improvement in the Afghan war effort could convince Canadians to remain engaged in the troubled country past 2011, when troops are due to return home, U.S. President Barack Obama suggests.

Obama said he doesn't plan to ask Prime Minister Stephen Harper to extend the country's commitment past the withdrawal date approved by Parliament last year when the two leaders meet here tomorrow.

But he said conditions could change dramatically

leading up to the scheduled withdrawal.

"We've got until 2011, according to the Canadian legislature, and I think it's important for the Canadian legislature and the people of Canada to get a sense that what they're doing is productive," Obama said in an interview yesterday with CBC News.

"Obviously, here as well, there are a lot of concerns about a conflict that has lasted quite a long time now and actually appears to be deteriorating at this point," he said.

In an interview with CBC News anchor Peter Mans-

Face-to-face

Besides Afghanistan, other priorities of discussion when the two leaders meet tomorrow are: The economy, climate change, energy security and "international security challenges," said Kory Teneycke, Harper's director of communications.

bridge, Obama expressed his "heartfelt thanks" to the Canadian families who have shouldered the burden of Canada's "extraordinary" contribution in the war-torn country.

The U.S. yesterday con-

firmed the deployment of an additional 17,000 troops to Afghanistan — the first instalment in a 30,000-troop surge.

Obama said he thinks that Afghanistan is "winnable," but conceded that the United States took its "eye off the ball" as a result of the prolonged involvement in Iraq.

In the CBC interview, Obama urged Canadians not to be "too concerned" about the "Buy American" provisions in Washington's fiscal stimulus package, calling Canada one of America's "most important" trading partners.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Crash seriously injures three

COLLISION Three people were seriously hurt in a two-car collision on Highway 174 east of Canaan Road yesterday afternoon.

At 3:44 p.m., paramedics attended a collision and treated three people in their 20s for various injuries.

A 22-year-old woman, who suffered serious leg fractures and internal injuries, was trapped in a vehicle for 45 minutes before being extricated. She was airlifted from the scene in serious condition.

From the same vehicle, a 22-year-old woman was treated for head and back injuries and was taken to hospital in stable condition.

The driver of the second vehicle, a man in his 20s, was treated for an ankle fracture and chest injuries and was taken to hospital in serious condition.

Police are investigating.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Apparent inmate suicide prompts investigation

GATINEAU Officers from the Surete du Quebec's homicide unit in Montreal have been called in to investigate the death of a 34-year-old man who appears to have hanged himself in a Gatineau police detention cell yesterday morning.

Yohan Cossette of Gatineau was rushed to hospital where he was declared dead, after he was discovered hanging in the cell around 3:45 a.m.

Cossette had been arrested an hour earlier for breach of conditions related to a prior criminal charge.

Police do not suspect foul play.

The Ministry of Public Security ordered the independent investigation.

An autopsy will be performed in the next few days.

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Investment in children's hospital to be announced today

Details of a major investment at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario from the physicians to clinical research will be announced today.

METRO OTTAWA

Local

**18-year-old charged in bank robberies**

Ottawa police have charged a city man in relation to two TD Canada Trust bank robberies that occurred last fall. On Oct. 8, the TD Canada Trust branches on Strandherd Drive and at 1547 Merivale Rd. were robbed. Earlier this week, police charged an 18-year-old with one count each of robbery and attempted robbery and two counts each of conspiracy to commit indictable offence and disguise while committing indictable offence. Joshua Irvine appears in court on March 10.

METRO OTTAWA

City prepares for Obama visit

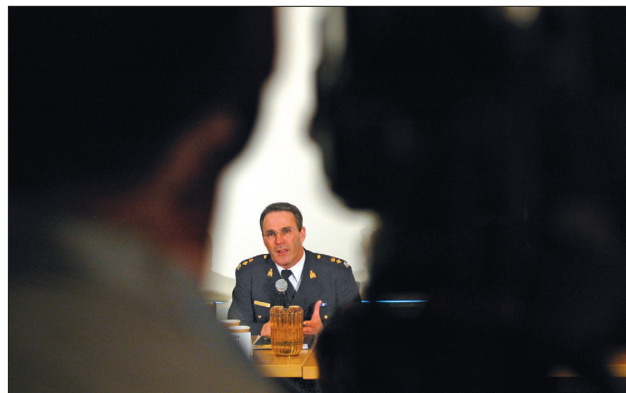
Big crowds expected to try and get a glimpse of American president

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

The best place to see U.S. President Barack Obama while he's in Ottawa is on television, but security officials are advising residents that Parliament Hill is the place to be if you must see him in person.

"It's a personal decision, obviously, but if you do want to get a glimpse of the motorcade, or the feel of the event, the hill is the best spot to go," RCMP Supt. Mike McDonald said. "We have nothing to indicate a public viewing on the hill. It is possible that all we will see is a motorcade entering Parliament."

Obama is expected to land in Ottawa at around 10:30 a.m. tomorrow, travel to Parliament Hill for a day of meetings then head back to the airport to leave Ot-



RCMP Supt. Mike McDonald speaks at a technical briefing for security measures in place for U.S. President Barack Obama's visit to Ottawa tomorrow.

tawa in the evening.

Air traffic will be shut down for 45 minutes around his arrival and departure, according to Krista Kealey with the Ottawa International Airport Authority.

Obama will not be making any public appearances at the airport and Kealey is

urging people not to go there hoping to see him.

"There will be no extra parking for spectators and it is important that what limited parking we do have is available to the travelling public," she said.

Several roads around Parliament Hill will be closed as of 7:30 a.m. and a visible police presence will be on hand during the visit.

Impact of Obama's visit on traffic**Known road closures**

- Residents of the National Capital Region can expect traffic and transit delays, disruptions and detours during the visit of U.S. President Barack Obama tomorrow. Road closures will begin at approximately 7:30 a.m. The known road closures at this time include:
- Wellington Street closed from Lyon to Rideau.
- Elgin Street northbound closed from Laurier to Wellington.
- Elgin Street southbound closed from Wellington to Queen.
- Colonel By closed from Main to Wellington.
- MacKenzie closed from St. Patrick to Wellington.
- Sussex closed from George to Rideau.
- Daly closed from Nicholas to Colonel By.

Unanticipated traffic disruptions are possible on the day of the visit.

For security reasons, Ottawa police Supt. Charles Bordeleau said police could not divulge the number of officers on duty, but insisted the police presence would be adequate for any development.

While the dynamic around this visit is far different from when former president George W. Bush last came to Ottawa, the se-

curity measures in place for this visit are the same, said McDonald.

"With this particular president, many people just want to see him — get a glimpse of him, but with respect to our measures, they remain the same," McDonald said. "Our approach doesn't change. We have to be able to respond to any eventualities."

Mother holds vigil for murdered son

TRACEY TONG
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MEMORY It's been five years today since Douglas Stewart was murdered. And not one of those days has gone by that Linda Beland doesn't think about her younger son and his killer.

"It hasn't gotten any easier," the Ottawa mother and grandmother said. "I wonder what he was doing five years ago, when he was killed."

"I miss him so much." Despite trying to move on with grief counselling, Beland said she can't rest until her son's killer is found.

"I need to know who and why," she said.

On Feb. 18, 2004, Stewart, 19, was found beaten to death in bed at his 15th floor apartment at 1240 Donald St. in the city's east end. Police believe he was bludgeoned to death with a tire iron.

Although Ottawa police are saying the case is still open, not much is happen-

"I truly believe that the person that killed my son will be found."

Linda Beland

ing, she said. "I'm not giving up hope. I truly believe that the person that killed my son will be found."

Until then, Beland hopes that a candlelit vigil she's holding at the Notre Dame Cemetery on Montreal Road tonight will keep Stewart's memory alive, and remind people that the case is still open.

The vigil, which begins at 7 p.m., is expected to draw more than 100 people.

"I'm doing this vigil to let everyone know that we still have a murderer walking among us," she said.

Beland and her older son, Raymond, 30, are working on creating their own reward to help find Stewart's killer.

"I believe it will help in bringing someone forward," she said.

Rideau Centre A tulip for Obama

Rideau Centre staffer Lisa Rochon admires a five-foot tulip created in honour of U.S. President Barack Obama's state visit to Canada's capital this week. The tulip, which was created by Ottawa-based visual artist and official Canadian Tulip Festival artist Jill Alexander, was unveiled at the Rideau Centre yesterday. The tulip will be presented to the American people during Obama's historic first visit.

News in brief

FIRE A west-end residential fire left a man in his mid-20s with smoke inhalation injuries yesterday morning. At 9:30 a.m., firefighters attended a call

of a fire at 33 Wade Court, said Ottawa Fire Platoon Chief Larry King. The fire, which was at a two-storey, single-family home, is believed to have started on

the first floor, King said. The fire caused \$150,000 in damages to the structure and \$75,000 to the contents.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

14 accused in bid rigging scheme

CONTRACTS A group of Ottawa-based information technology companies are facing criminal charges for rigging bids for \$67 million worth of Government of Canada contracts following an investigation by the Competition Bureau.

In total, 14 individuals and seven companies are accused of secretly co-ordinating their bids in an illegal scheme to defraud the government by winning and dividing contracts, while blocking out other competitors.

The bureau's investigation found evidence of criminal activity in 10 competitive bidding processes going back to 2005, for contracts worth roughly \$67 million. Eight of the contracts, worth \$62 million, relate to IT services for the Canada Border Services Agency. The other two contracts are for IT services for Transport Canada (\$4 million) and Public Works (\$1 million).

Over the course of the bureau's investigation, officers searched 10 locations, including head offices and homes, and seized over 125,000 paper and electronic records.

Ottawa companies facing charges include TPG Technology Consulting Ltd., Spearhead Management Canada Ltd., Tipacimowin Technology Inc., Donna Cona Inc., Nortak Software Ltd., The Devon Group Ltd. and Brainhunter Inc.

METRO OTTAWA

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Sovereignists claim victory after Ottawa cancels Plains of Abraham re-enactment at metronews.ca/canada
Video Harper confident that General Motors will stay in Canada at metronews.ca/canada

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These results are not official.

Explore your heritage

Celebrations meant to spur support of our history

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

The nation's capital has some of Canada's most unique heritage buildings and residents here should do more to support them, an expert said yesterday.

While many of the buildings cannot be used to their best advantage because of factors like accessibility, heritage buildings should be saved until it is proven that demolition is the only way to go, said Sandy Smallwood, president of Andrex Holdings Limited.

"We should have a heritage-first policy," he said.

As consumers, Ottawa residents can do their part. "Spend your dollars in heritage buildings," Smallwood suggested. "It gives the message to developers that there is money in heritage buildings. Make heritage buildings a part of everyday life."

"Ottawa's historical architecture is a fundamental part of its rich heritage," said Deputy Mayor



Members of the local heritage community, including, from right to left, M. Lindsay Lambert, Steve Dezort, Barb Bottreil, Dan Hoffman and Jim Stanzell, attend the Ottawa Heritage Day celebrations at city hall yesterday. The nationwide celebration encourages Canadians to celebrate their heritage.

Marianne Wilkinson, who kicked off Heritage Day at city hall yesterday. This year's theme is Heritage and the Environment: Saving Places Built to Last.

Part of a nationwide, month-long celebration, Heritage Day encourages Canadians to explore and celebrate their personal heritage.

"We live in a fantastic

city. Whether it's skating on the Rideau Canal ... or simply enjoying villages like Manotick, Ottawa has something for everyone," Wilkinson said. "And we are all responsible for protecting our heritage."

This year, Ottawa is also celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Village of Manotick.

There are many heritage

groups in Ottawa that are entirely run by volunteers, said Meg Hamilton, executive director of The Council of Heritage Organizations in Ottawa. "And the fact that you are all here today shows that people care about Ottawa's heritage. By working together, we can continue to share these stories with future generations."

Marathon to help search and rescuers

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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With the Winterlude Triathlon, the Gatineau Loppet, the Really Cool Prediction Run and the Canadian Ski Marathon filling the weekends, February is a busy month for mass participation sporting events. But that hasn't prevented 800 people from signing up to race in the inaugural Winterman Marathon this Sunday.

The race — the region's only winter marathon — is a joint effort of Search and Rescue Global 1 and Somersault Promotions.

Winterman Marathon

race director Lawrence Conway said the event is a fundraiser for search and rescue volunteers. SAR Global 1 is often called out to help police departments find hurt or lost backpackers, hikers or mountain bikers.

Since this is their first winter marathon, Conway said they chose a looping five-kilometre course between the War Museum and Tunney's Pasture.

"A smaller, close loop is a lot more controllable from our perspective, and for spectators as well," he said. "If you have a big, long course there would be long gaps of isolation for the runners."

News in brief

ROBBERY Ottawa police have arrested two men and are seeking a third after investigating a Richmond Road LCBO robbery late Monday night. Just before midnight, police found the front door had been smashed and entry gained. Anyone with information can contact Ottawa police at 613-236-1222 ext. 2266, or Crime Stoppers at 613-233-8477 (TIPS).

INJURIES A 67-year-old man is in stable condition with serious injuries to both legs after being struck by a car late Monday night. Paramedics attended a call at 11:30 p.m. on the Transitway at Hunt Club Road where they found a pedestrian who was struck by a westbound car while crossing the road.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA



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RIM settles with U.S. regulator

BlackBerry maker Research in Motion's top executives settled U.S. regulator claims that they illegally backdated millions of stock options over an eight-year period, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission said yesterday. Officials with the Canadian company, including co-CEO James Balsillie, left, did not admit to or deny the SEC's allegations. The company agreed to pay \$1.43 million in fines.

REUTERS

McGuinty blasted for budget delay

Ontario's Liberal government is under fire from the opposition for failing to table an early budget to help unemployed workers and families deal with the economic crisis.

In the first session of the legislature since the holiday break, Premier Dalton McGuinty's government took it on the chin for delaying the provincial budget — there is still no specific date on exactly when it will be released other than before the end of March.

"Where is the budget?" Progressive Conservative Leader John Tory asked yesterday before question period. Tory doesn't have a

seat in the legislature, but he is running in a March 5 byelection in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

"Where is the plan? Is there a plan? He (McGuinty) is all over the map on policy, and all over the map even on the day he is having the budget."

McGuinty conceded the budget has been delayed by a month from an original target of next week. "Urgency is important, but getting it right is also important," the premier told reporters.

Finance Minister Dwight Duncan echoed McGuinty's concern about getting the numbers right.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"Where is the plan? Is there a plan?"

John Tory

Quebec City Re-enactment cancelled



Andre Juneau, director of the National Battlefields Commission, answers questions after a news conference yesterday in Quebec City. The National Battlefields Commission has cancelled a re-enactment of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham set for this summer due to security concerns that the mock battle could turn into a modern-day conflict, after some sovereigntists have threatened violence.

Media fighting for 'right to be wrong'

CHALLENGE The country's Supreme Court of Canada, faced with an appeal that could establish a new defence against defamation lawsuits, has challenged media organizations to justify why journalists should be given a greater "right to be wrong."

Several media organizations argued yesterday that the court should endorse a "public interest-responsible journalism" defence that would shield reporters from lawsuits and protect the public's right to know — even if the truth of an article cannot be proven.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

INVESTMENT GO Transit is getting a \$500-million boost as part of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's economic action plan. Har-

per told reporters about the funding at a press conference held with Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty in Toronto yesterday.

PETS As the economy deteriorates, people who work with animals say they're getting more calls from pet owners

who can no longer afford to keep their animals, or can't afford their vet bills.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Landry fined for speeding

Former Quebec premier Bernard Landry received a \$1,000 ticket for driving more than double the speed limit. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

canada 7

Church loses its charitable status

An evangelical church that used donor money to pay for gym memberships, Gucci fashion accessories and trips to Hawaii and elsewhere for its directors has been stripped of its charitable licence by the federal government.

The Dominion Christian Centre of Canada was set up in Hamilton by charismatic leader Peter Rigo, a former decorator who says a divine power summoned him in the year 2000 to "encourage believers to live effectively as Christians." Rigo has said Dominion is a great church praying for the revitalization of downtown Hamilton; at least one family claims it is a cult and faces criminal charges for trying to remove their daughter.

After an audit of the church's books, sparked by critics of its activities, the federal charity regulator has told the Dominion group that its assets have

Loss of licence

- Losing charitable status for the Dominion church does not close it down, but it makes it more difficult to raise money and means they will have to start paying property and other taxes.

been misused, spent for the "private benefit" of Rigo, his wife and others.

The regulator found that money contributed by donors and destined for good works, was instead paid to fund "numerous personal trips, payments for privately used vehicles, gym memberships, food, lodging and other unsubstantiated payments."

Among the expenses that raised eyebrows, auditors say, were numerous purchases at "expensive fashion outlets such as Gucci and Dolce Gabbana."

The audit says the transgressions of Rigo, his wife, Peggy (also a pastor), and assistant pastor Dave Barhouma, were many.

In response to the allegations, church leaders told the regulator that poor bookkeeping made it hard for them to address many of the concerns auditors had. The audit states that about a year ago, the church agreed to stop paying for food, trips, gym memberships and haircuts for church leaders. However, the audit goes on to say that a year later, the church had not addressed the issues raised by the audit, giving rise to the revocation of its licence.

In Canada, most churches are charities. This allows them to raise donations by providing an income tax receipt to donors, and also allows them to operate without paying any taxes.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police name victim in B.C. drive-by

SHOOTING Police have identified the woman killed in a drive-by shooting in Surrey, B.C., on Monday as 23-year-old Nicole Marie Alemy from White Rock.

Alemy was shot three times while driving her husband's off-white Cadillac.

Her four-year-old son was in the back seat at the time but wasn't hurt.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team said the boy is being kept in the care of the province for his own safety.

RCMP Cpl. Dale Carr said police are investigating the possibility the victim was killed in a case of mistaken identity.

**KRISTEN THOMPSON/
METRO CANADA**

News in brief

MURDER A seven-months pregnant Mississauga, Ont., woman has been charged with second-degree murder after a man was fatally stabbed at her baby shower. The woman's common-law husband has also been arrested, accused of being an accessory after the fact to murder.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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British lawyer David Mills has been sentenced to more than four years in prison for corruption over accepting a \$600,000 US bribe from Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi in 1997. Berlusconi currently has immunity in the case, in which he had been charged with paying Mills the bribe to withhold incriminating details about his business dealings. **REUTERS**

World



Kosovo marks independence

Tens of thousands of Kosovo Albanians celebrated the first anniversary of their declaration of independence yesterday, despite President Fatmir Sejdiu's warning that Serbia is challenging its former province's secession. Kosovo seceded from Serbia in 2008, nine years after the end of the 1998-1999 war between Belgrade's security forces and ethnic Albanian guerrillas. **REUTERS**

News in brief

RACISM The return of the United States to UN talks on racism could prove pivotal to salvaging an international conference plagued by charges of Israel-bashing, human rights activists said yesterday.

SPAIN A Spanish soldier and his Russian girlfriend were arrested yesterday for posting videos on the Internet calling for Islamist attacks in Spain to recover territories that were

under Muslim rule for hundreds of years, the National Police said.

ADVERTISING China has banned actors and other "non-accredited personnel" from playing medical experts in advertisements for drugs after an Internet-led witch hunt exposed a number of bogus experts, state media reported on Monday.

REUTERS

Former Ontario Metis Aboriginal Association members and former Canadian Metis Council members

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Khmer Rouge torturer on trial

The chief Khmer Rouge torturer went on trial for crimes against humanity yesterday, the first senior Pol Pot cadre to be tried by the "Killing Fields" court three decades after the deaths of 1.7 million Cambodians.

Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch and ex-commandant of the notorious S-21 prison, did not address the court, but sat impassively as lawyers haggled over procedural matters.

Hundreds of victims, in-

cluding saffron-robed Buddhist monks who were persecuted during the 1975-79 Khmer Rouge era, packed the public gallery, reacting with anger and relief at the sight of 66-year-old Duch in the dock.

"This is the day we have waited for for 30 years," said Vann Nath, 63, one of a handful of survivors from S-21 where at least 14,000 "enemies of the revolution" were tortured and killed.

This week's hearings will



Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch

lay the groundwork for a full-blown trial in March, when Duch and survivors are expected to testify.

Duch, now a born-again Christian, has expressed remorse before facing the joint Cambodian-UN tribunal, set up to prosecute "those most responsible"

for one of the darkest chapters of the 20th century.

Duch also faces charges of war crimes, torture and homicide while chief of S-21, where victims were forced to confess to crimes and then shot or beaten to death in the "Killing Fields" outside the capital.

Only 12 survived, according to the U.S.-funded Documentation Center of Cambodia, which has researched the Khmer Rouge era. **REUTERS**

Protesters burn cars, wreck shops on French island

GADELOUPE Protesters ransacked shops and burned cars in Guadeloupe overnight as a strike over the cost of living escalated, and one senior local official said the French Caribbean island was "on the verge of revolt."

Tree trunks and smoking car wrecks were strewn across streets in the island's largest town Pointe-a-Pitre and in other areas, including Sainte-Rose in the north after a night of

Background

- Guadeloupe depends on costly imports for much of its requirements and prices for many staples are far higher

than in mainland France, while salaries are generally lower and unemployment is high.

clashes between police and protesters. No injuries were reported.

Guadeloupe, a French overseas region, has been brought to a standstill for nearly a month by strikes and demonstrations over

high prices for food and other necessities.

The situation has degenerated over the past two days as protesters have set up road blocks and police have made dozens of arrests.

The demonstrations, coordinated by an alliance of around 50 unions and associations known as "Liyanaj Kont Pwofitasyon" (LKP) — Stand Up Against Exploitation in local dialect — had been peaceful.

But the tone grew angrier recently as the government in Paris has refused to budge on a demand for a 200-euro (\$252.90 US) monthly raise for low-paid workers.

REUTERS

Brazil Underwear Day



Brazilian models dance at a bus station during the third edition of "Brazilian Underwear Day" in Brasilia yesterday. The day is inspired by a similar event which has taken place at Times Square in New York City since 2003.

Obama signs stimulus into law

WASHINGTON U.S. President Barack Obama signed a \$787-billion US economic stimulus bill into law yesterday as global markets plunged on fears that the recession would deepen despite government action in many countries.

Obama, who has described the package as one part of a plan to alleviate economic ills, was expected to lay out a strategy today to stem home foreclosures and address the housing crisis that sparked the financial sector meltdown. **REUTERS**

Chimp shot dead after rampage

CONNECTICUT Police shot and killed a 200-pound chimpanzee that had once starred in commercials after it nearly killed its owner's friend and attacked a police cruiser on Monday. The chimp was taking medication for Lyme disease, which in humans can cause nerve damage and confusion. **REUTERS**

Bill Gates's investments lose value amid crisis

Even billionaire Bill Gates may be feeling the pinch these days. The value of Gates's investments fell by \$3 billion US, or almost 20 per cent, in the fourth quarter as the worst financial crisis in decades and a deepening recession hammered stock prices. **REUTERS**

Al-Jazeera PR site in works

Al-Jazeera is starting a public relations campaign to dispel what it calls myths and misperceptions that have prevented it from reaching more U.S. and Canadian viewers, the international television news network said yesterday.

Al-Jazeera's English-language service is starting a website called IWantAJE.net, offering news the Qatar-based network produces and a list of "Hits and Myths" knocking down statements about the network that it says are untrue.

It is launching a similar site for Canadians, IWantAJE.ca, as it prepares to seek permission from the Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

Misperceptions

- Al-Jazeera has said that gaining access in the United States has been hampered by what it calls misperceptions that it supports al-Qaida, that it is anti-Semitic and anti-American, that it shows beheadings, and that it has an anti-western agenda.

to offer its service through cable and satellite providers here.

The websites will ask people to email their cable and satellite providers and ask them to carry the channel. Viewers can also watch the channel live on the website and read bulletins with the day's top stories. **REUTERS**

News in brief

SCIENCE An experiment relocating butterfly colonies in Britain shows that animals and plants can be moved to new,

cooler habitats to help them survive global warming, scientists said yesterday. **REUTERS**

Tokyo Students welcome Clinton



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is guided to the stage by Hiroshi Komiya, president of Tokyo University, at the start of a town hall meeting with students from the school yesterday. Clinton is visiting Japan, Indonesia, South Korea and China this week on her first foreign trip as secretary of state.

Texas billionaire, 2 executives accused of fraud

CORRUPTION Texas billionaire Allen Stanford and three of his companies were charged with "massive ongoing fraud" yesterday as federal agents

swooped in on his U.S. headquarters.

In a complaint filed in federal court in Dallas, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ac-

cused Stanford, 58, and two other top executives at Stanford Financial Group of fraudulently selling \$8 billion US in high-yield certificates of deposit. **REUTERS**

Mexicans protest army ops against drug gangs

CONFLICT Hundreds of Mexicans blocked roads and bridges into the United States in a cartel-funded protest of army operations against drug gangs, police said yesterday.

About 300 protesters carried signs complaining about army operations in the northern city of Monterrey. Small groups also blocked bridges that connect the border city of Reynosa with Texas, police said. "These protesters are residents, but there is a movement behind them," said Nuevo Leon state police Chief Aldo Fasci. Last week, Fasci said organized crime was paying people to protest against the army. **REUTERS**

Forces

- Mexican President Felipe Calderon has mobilized 45,000 troops and federal police to seize weapons, narcotics and kingpins in the north.

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Comment

21st century transfers

NoBorders

Deborah
Coyne

dmr.coyne@rogers.com

How many times must Premier Danny Williams verbally explode about “equalization” before the Harper government abandons its hyper-partisan approach to serious matters of national interest? Equalization is a very serious matter, which, together with other federal-provincial transfers for health, education and social services, plays a critical role in promoting equality of opportunity and comparable levels of services across Canada. This commitment defines a great nation.

Regrettably we can no longer measure how well the myriad of federal contributions to the provinces, including equalization, helps to ensure comparable public services across Canada. No amount of tinkering with the arcane

equalization formula will fix this fundamental problem, especially since too many other federal programs incorporate confusing equalizing elements that exacerbate inequities among Canadians. The best example is Employment Insurance, which is structured to benefit the unemployed who live in weaker areas of the country.

There is urgent need to bring coherence, consistency and accountability to the jumble of federal contributions to provinces, especially with Ontario qualifying for equalization.

Unfortunately the Harper government has no interest in promoting comparable public services — the recent manifestation of this being the elimination of all federal funds for child care operations.

Harper’s seemingly real agenda is to downsize the national government, download responsibilities and

fiscal room, permanently eliminating Ottawa’s ability to pursue national standards and objectives in most public services and programs.

With every month in power, Harper draws closer to achieving his goal.

Harper’s signature step — the GST cuts — reducing national revenue by \$60 billion over five years, was a bad step in the best of times, universally condemned by economists, and now cripples the national government’s ability to respond in this, the worst of times.

Yet Harper refuses to reconsider.

Ottawa’s al-

ready small share of national income, by far the lowest of any central government in the developed world, will continue to shrink to historic lows.

Opposition parties must directly challenge this agenda. Explain to Canadians why we must stop weakening the fiscal position of the federal government — taking care not to turn national politics into a complex and excruciatingly boring accounting problem. Propose the establishment of a permanent non-partisan advisory commission (similar to Australia) to make the system of federal contributions to provinces more transparent and subject to public scrutiny. And ensure that, through the commission, decisions relating to federal-provincial fiscal relations are based on intelligent debate and reflect longer-term national objectives to build stronger ties among Canadians rather than weakening them.

Deborah Coyne ran as a Liberal candidate in the 2006 federal election and is a public policy consultant who runs canadianswithoutborders.blogspot.com.



Word on the street: Do you think U.S. President Barack Obama will usher in a new era of Canada/U.S. relations?

Mark
Kershew

age 25, Ottawa
visitor from
Toronto

A: Yes, he understands that in order for the global economy to improve, all countries have to work together.

Natasha
MacQueen

age 33, Ottawa
visitor from
Grimsby, Ont.

A: I think he'll definitely improve relations with Canada and I definitely think he'll be a good president.

Karen
Faris

age 43, Ottawa
visitor from
Rochester, N.Y.

A: I think he'll reach out and try to make things better. His intent is inclusiveness.

Matthew
Clarke

age 23, Toronto

A: I think so. I hope so. He's a voice for change in the States, so hopefully we're on the boat with that, too.

Stacey
Ireland

age 20, Toronto

A: I have a feeling that if the stimulus package doesn't go over well, then there might be some tension.

Scott
Book

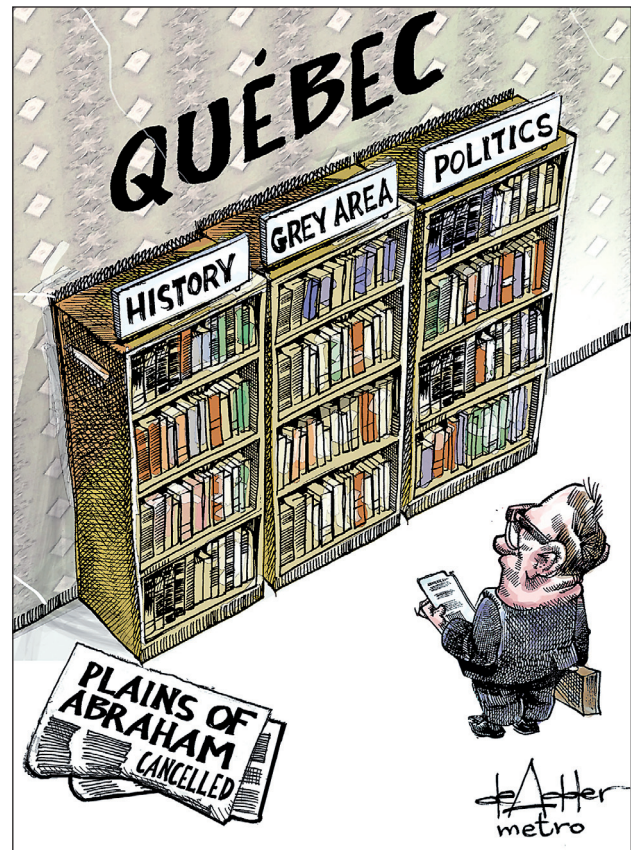
age 33,
Edmonton

A: I think he'll improve relations just because he's well liked. People will listen to what he says.



It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawalatters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



Letters

Team should come before stadium plans

In the conversations surrounding the decision about the future of the sports facilities for Ottawa, it's very surprising to witness the absence of anything related to the CFL or soccer players that will be using these facilities.

Are these business guys going to buy players from other cities as easily as they spend their dollars in constructions of buildings or are they going to invest in the development of these sports in the city?

My main concern is we don't have an official Ottawa soccer team. I think this should be a requirement to be able to join the MLS instead of having a soccer-specific stadium.

We don't want to just look at an empty pretty piece of grass in the middle of the city. If Canada ever wants to become a competitive player in the international soccer scene, our main focus should be about developing players

and teams before build stadiums.

LEONARD EVERTON, OTTAWA

60 per cent discount OK

John Holmes rants (understandably) about the gobs-macking U-turn in the incentives for transit pass users last week. He says \$32.40 isn't a “life-changing amount of money.”

Apparently, it is enough of a life-changing amount to Mr. Holmes that he took almost two column inches to talk about it.

It's not surprising there's an urban-rural split in the vote on council. Many of the rural councillors' constituents were likely not as affected by the strike. Perhaps these councillors can look at the fallout from the strike a little more objectively than the urban ones.

As an urban taxpayer, I would prefer the city not give up a month's worth of revenues from pass holders. A 60 per cent discount is not unreasonable for the month of March.

GORDON DEWIS, OTTAWA

Metro Online Poll Results

28%
SAID
YES

Does a ban on smoking in
vehicles with minors go too far?

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

72%
SAID
NO

Trump casino unit files for bankruptcy

Trump Entertainment Resorts Inc., the casino operator of the Trump Taj Mahal, Trump Plaza and Trump Marina that's named for Donald Trump, filed for bankruptcy protection yesterday as the recession and declining gambling revenues took its toll. **REUTERS**

11

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Banks pounded

Investors fear financial disaster

Bank stocks endured another pitiless pounding yesterday amid escalating fears the global financial system remains at risk despite government help.

The carnage began in Asia as Woori Finance Holdings Co. sank 6.8 per cent as the cost of borrowing dollars hit a record.

European bank stocks also tanked after Moody's Investors Service said it may downgrade lenders with units in Eastern Europe. That, in turn, soured sentiment on Wall Street as investors dumped shares and doubted whether the \$787-billion US stimulus package would succeed in reviving the economy.

Here at home, a nasty 6.42 per cent decline in the financial sub-index helped fuel a near 300-point slide

Conflicting views

- The worldwide tumble came as a survey suggested Canadians are very confident about the stability of Canada's banking system.
- Caldwell Securities analyst Jon Kinsey said Canadian banks are in better shape than global peers, but noted the "next shoe to fall" will be a credit card debacle as more are laid off.

on the Toronto Stock Exchange, led by Manulife Financial and Royal Bank.

Just a week before the banks' first-quarter earnings season, their stocks are once again testing November lows on investor worries about lower dividends and climbing credit losses. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Business in brief

TELECOM Nortel Networks Corp. aims to present its new business plan on how it will scale down its operations within the next few weeks. It's the


first step in the months-long process of restructuring after filing bankruptcy last month.

AUTOS Prime Minister Stephen

Harper said he is confident General Motors will maintain an industry link in Canada, despite a possibility the automaker may move out of Canada as

it restructures its operations in Canada and the U.S. GM and Chrysler were to present their plans in the U.S. yesterday, and in Canada on Friday. **REUTERS**

| DOLLAR | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|
|  | C\$ | 79.13¢ US |
| | US\$ | \$1.2637 |
| | 1.27¢ | |

| OIL | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
|  | \$34.93 US |
| | \$2.58 |

An important change in how organ and tissue donation decisions are registered in Ontario.

Have you registered a decision of "No" or "Undecided" regarding organ and tissue donation?

Then, you should know that, Ontario has changed the way donation decisions are recorded. Now, only a "Yes" to organ and tissue donation will be collected and stored in the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) database. At the appropriate time, this information will be accessed by the Trillium Gift of Life Network (TGLN), Ontario's provincial organ donation agency.

If you have previously registered "NO" or "UNDECIDED", this decision will no longer be used or disclosed to TGLN, as of July 1, 2009.

Therefore, it is important that you tell your family or loved ones of your decision, to ensure that your wishes are properly conveyed to your health care team at the relevant time.

Make your donation decision known to your family.

To find out more, visit www.ontario.ca/organdonation or call ServiceOntario, INFOLine at 1-866-532-3161.

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 **Ontario**

Imprisoned NFL star Michael Vick's suburban Atlanta home will be offered for sale to the highest bidder on March 10. The order sets an opening bid of US\$3.2 million for the eight-bedroom home in Duluth, Ga. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

MLB The Atlanta Braves tried to close a deal with Ken Griffey Jr. yesterday, hoping the slugger who ranks fifth on baseball's career homer list can bolster an outfield that produced the fewest home runs in the majors last season. Griffey had narrowed his search for a new home to Seattle, where he starred from 1989-99, and the Braves.

NBA The Oklahoma City Thun-

der have acquired centre Tyson Chandler from New Orleans in a deal that sends veterans Joe Smith and Chris Wilcox to the Hornets. After years of trying to draft and develop a front-line centre, the move finally gives the Thunder a proven talent inside. The seven-foot-one Chandler has averaged 8.8 points and 8.3 rebounds a game this season.

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Sens In the Rockies



The Senators' Ryan Shannon celebrates his goal against the Colorado Avalanche with teammate Nick Foligno last night. For a complete game recap, visit www.metronews.ca/sports.

Kovalev told to take a break

NHL When the Montreal Canadiens embark on a two-game road trip beginning today, one player who will not be with the club is star forward Alex Kovalev. Canadiens general manager Bob Gainey announced yesterday that Kovalev will not make the Habs' two-game road swing through Washington and Pittsburgh. Gainey cited the Russian veteran's apparent lack of energy and emotion.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Deep Impact in Montreal

As Ottawa continues its CFL vs. MLS debate and the Vancouver Whitecaps wait patiently in the wings for word on their MLS franchise, the Montreal Impact, the unassuming USL-1 franchise, just set the all-time attendance record for a CONCACAF game.

With little less than a week before their quarterfinal Champions League match against Mexican side Santos Laguna, the Impact announced Monday that they have sold 43,000 tickets to Olympic Stadium.

Let me repeat that once more — Montreal, in the dead of winter, in the heart of Habs country, just sold

JustSoccer

Ben Rycroft

ben.rycroft@metronews.ca

43,000 seats to a soccer game.

Ole, ole, ole, non?

It's not as strange as you might think — the late '70s and early '80s were filled with these kinds of numbers.

In 1983, 60,432 showed up at B.C. Place to watch Vancouver take on the Seattle Sounders. Their average attendance that year was well over 29,000.

In 1981, 58,542 cheered the Montreal Manic past the Chicago Sting — both now defunct franchises. Montreal's average attendance that year topped 23,000.

But two things, beyond the attendance, are needed to make this moment last as a Canadian success story.

One, the club has to get a decent result at the Big O. If Santos wipes the pitch with them, those waves of interest will recede quickly in Montreal. Bluntly, the odds are stacked against them. Santos is approaching mid-season form in the Mexican Premier league while Montreal is still shaking off its winter hibernation.

Two, the winter weather has got to co-operate. It was

nearly ten years ago that a very large chunk of that aging elephant collapsed on to a surprised auto show and since then, little winter activity has been permitted.

The city of Montreal has put strict conditions on its use: There can be no snow or ice on the roof at kickoff, there can be no snow or ice on the tower at kickoff and in the 24 hours prior to kickoff there can be no snowfall or freezing rain forecast.

So, basically, there may be no kickoff.

The following night will be the makeup date — but after that, no one is quite sure what will happen.

Watch Ben Rycroft on the It's Called Football show every Sunday at metronews.ca

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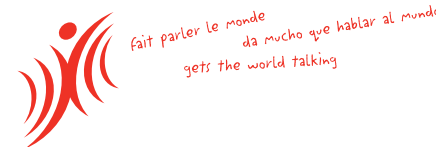
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Metro Drive

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Maybach's new metal

Maybach has announced its Zeppelin will premiere at the Geneva Motor Show, Canadian Driver reports. It is a successor to the Maybach Zeppelin that was considered the ultimate in high-class automotive engineering in the 1930s. The flagship Zeppelin will feature a unique paint finish, meticulously crafted interior materials, and several new options including a perfume atomizer.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hot, hot Equator

Suzuki's light truck entry heavy with features

JIM KERR
for Metro Canada



There's a new player in the light truck market. Suzuki has expanded their lineup, not only adding compact cars and mid size SUV's, but now also have a mid-size truck in their portfolio. They call it the Equator.

Suzuki has built trucks before. Their first truck was the Suzulight Carry in 1961. We didn't see it here. Compared to other manufacturers, Suzuki is a relative newcomer to Canada, with Suzuki Canada Inc., founded in 1979 by parent company Suzuki Motor Corporation. To build a truck for North America, Suzuki has partnered with Nissan and will utilize Nissan's next generation Frontier platform for their first venture into the mid-size truck market.

According to Seiichi Maruyama, president of Suzuki Canada, "Pickup buyers in Canada are a par-

2009 Suzuki Equator

Type: 4WD mid-size pickup truck
Price: from \$33,795
Engine: 4.0 litre DOHC V6
HP: 261 at 5600 rpm
Torque: 281 lb.ft. at 4000 rpm

Highlights

- Stability control
- Spray-on bed liner
- Rear window defroster
- Air conditioning

ticularly good fit for Suzuki since, statistically speaking, they're more likely to participate in lifestyle-oriented activities."

While U.S. buyers get the option of extended cab or crew cab, four cylinder or V6, manual or automatic transmission, the Equator in Canada is only available with the more versatile and popular crew cab configuration with V6 and automatic transmission. With 261 horsepower, the 4.0 litre V6 engine with a



The 2009 Suzuki Equator is perfectly suited for Canadian outdoor and off-roading lifestyle, says Seiichi Maruyama, president of Suzuki Canada.

Capable of hauling passengers and cargo, towing a trailer or just playing around in the countryside, the Equator looks ready to go.

five speed automatic transmission provides ample power. Fuel economy is rated at 14.4 L/100 km in the city and 10.4 L/100 km on the highway, which is excellent for a vehicle with 281 ft lbs of torque and a towing capacity of 2767 kg.

For some serious off-road adventures, shift the standard two-speed transfer case into low range and let that four wheel drive system do the work. Stability control, traction control and ABS will help the driver

both on and off road. A spray-in bedliner comes as standard equipment on every Equator and this tough low-slip surface will keep the interior of the box looking good no matter what you are hauling.

Inside, the Equator offers air conditioning, power windows and locks, keyless entry, cruise control, tilt steering, 60/40 split folding rear seats with underseat storage and security net over the storage area, rear window defroster and heat-

ed outside mirrors.

The interior looks attractive and access is very good, with the rear doors opening a full 90 degrees.

Mid-size trucks are gaining popularity for their fuel economy and economical pricing. There are limited choices in the mid-size truck market and Suzuki may be introducing the right vehicle at the right time. Recent Suzuki vehicles have been of excellent quality and the Equator's five year/100,000 km powertrain warranty will build confidence in the product. Capable of hauling passengers and cargo, towing a trailer or just playing around in the countryside, the Equator looks ready to go.

2010 Golf unveiled at show

DEBUT Volkswagen debuted the new 2010 Golf at the Canadian International Auto Show (CIAS) last week in Toronto.

The sixth generation compact hatchback was presented for the first time in North America in a five-door 2.0 litre TDI Diesel version.

One of the world's most popular vehicles ever, the Golf has sold over 26 million units since its introduction in Europe in 1974. Volkswagen also announced that nearly 400,000 Rabbits, Golfs, and GTIs have been sold in Canada since the introduction of the first generation in 1975.

The Golf's redesign team, headed by the Volkswagen Group's chief designer, Walter de Silva, with Klaus Bischoff and Flavio Manzoni, has succeeded in giving the Golf a presence, sharpness, and a power that generates even more fun.

All key body elements were redesigned, and the Golf has a sportier and more distinctive image.

In front, the new car adopts the radiator grille of the first generation Golf that is horizontally aligned between the headlights.

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Trafalgar Tours has extended the booking period for its Buy One, Get One Free airfare deal with British Airways to March 31. The promotion covers travel from a variety of Canadian cities to many European gateways; see trafalgartours.ca for details. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Travel



Dublin guide

If you're thinking of heading to Dublin for St. Patrick's Day, check out visitdublin.com for a rundown of hotel deals, activities, maps and iWalks, free podcast audio guides to the city. You'll also find a link to the Dublin Pass, a savings package that covers free entry to 27 top attractions, free transport from Dublin Airport to the city and more. The site also boasts a handy countdown-to-St.-Patrick's-Day-2009 clock — and we're at 26 days now, so get planning. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

Exploring Mexico's myriad landscapes

ERICK TAPIA
Metro World News



High-profile beach resorts may be the first thing that comes to mind when Canadian holidaymakers think about Mexico. But that's a very narrow picture of a country that in fact boasts an astonishing variety of destinations.

Mexico is home to multiple ecosystems and an alluring geography that includes rainforests, deserts, beaches, magical old towns, forests, cliffs and spectacular vistas. As for its cultural wealth, a mosaic of cultures left behind monuments, spiritual traditions and rituals that spark the imagination. In fact the country has so much to offer that the choice can be bewildering. Here are some of Mexico's most exciting destinations:

Huatulco: A coastal paradise on the Pacific Ocean in the state of Oaxaca, Huatulco is the perfect spot for diving and snorkelling. The coastline has nine protected bays and 36 beaches, all part of the Bahias de Huatulco National Park. Main tourist centres include Tangolunda Bay and Santa Cruz Bay; the latter has spectacular coral reefs teeming with marine life.

Tepoztlan: About two hours away from Mexico City, Tepoztlan is a place full of mystery and tradition. During the spring equinox, thousands of people visit the mountain of Cerro del Tepozteco because they believe it will charge them with energy. A highlight is the remains of a pre-Hispanic temple at the summit; tepoz.com.mx.

On the web

• visitmexico.com

Teotihuacan: The place where men became gods, this is one of the most important archaeological zones in Mexico and a UNESCO World Heritage site. The highlights of this metropolis — thought to have been built between the first and seventh centuries AD — are the Temple of Quetzalcoatl and the Pyramids of the Sun and the Moon, vast monuments flanking the city's central avenue. The site is 40 kilometres northeast of Mexico City.

Barrancas del Cobre: A national park located in the northwestern state of Chihuahua, Barrancas del Cobre or Copper Canyon is an



Tangolunda Bay in Huatulco is part of a coastal paradise that includes nine protected bays and 36 beaches.

enormous net of canyons four times the size of the Grand Canyon. It also has one of Mexico's most impressive arrays of flora and fauna. The best way to explore this natural jewel is by train on the Chihuahua-Pacifico railroad or CHEPE, chepe.com.mx, which offers spectacular views of rivers, cactus forests, pine woodland and narrow gorges from above and be-

low. Stop off and enjoy trips downstream, horse riding, rock climbing, guided nature treks and visits to the reclusive Tarahumara Indians, barrancasdelcobreweb.site.com.

Valle de Bravo: About 150 kilometres southwest of Mexico City, on the hills rising from the shores of beautiful Lake Avandaro, this pretty little town is a

magnet for tourists, many of whom are drawn by the Sanctuary for the Monarch Butterfly. Every winter, millions of Monarchs journey from North America to the local forest. Valle de Bravo is also home to the Velo de Novia (Bride's Veil) waterfall and the Natural Reserve of Monte Blanco; valledebravo.com.mx.

Real de Catorce: Real de Catorce is a beautiful, tranquil village high in the Sierra de Catorce mountains in the state of Zacatecas. Silence and pure air are its main attributes. Founded in 1779, this once booming silver-mining town was later abandoned and many original buildings still stand, which is why it's a popular backdrop for Hollywood movies.

It's also a spiritual place, with pilgrims visiting every year for various festivals. Its tourist infrastructure is improving, but accommodation is limited. There are no banks, and only one hotel and restaurant accepts credit cards; vivarealdecatorce.com.

The travel industry's new buzz phrase — 'recession chic'

RECESSION Hedonism is out in the travel business and "recession chic" is in, according to experts at a recent travel show in New York where customers were looking for bargains to brighten the gloom.

"People are being more value conscious, but just as important, they're being more conscious of their values, and what that means is that they're looking for experiences that speak to their heart," said Daniel Levine, a trend spotter at the Avant-Guide Institute

Riding the Recession

who analyzes social trends.

Levine says as Americans see their savings dwindle and the economy crumbling around them, they are focusing on what is most important — friends, family, health or the environment — and taking that into account in planning vacations.

"It's not about hedonism

any more," Levine said at the New York Times Travel Show in Manhattan.

"Destinations that are just offering expensive pampering are going to be hurting," he told Reuters. "The ones that are offering experiences that speak to 'recession chic' values are going to do well."

He pointed to a program set up by Ritz-Carlton hotels called Give Back Getaways, which gives guests at its luxury hotels an opportunity to spend half a day volunteering in the

community where they are visiting.

Lydia Dean founded a company called GoPhilanthropic two years ago to design custom-tailored, high-end vacations that incorporate support for social and conservation projects in places such as Vietnam, India and Central America.

"In Vietnam, they're given an opportunity to purchase and donate a portable mobile library to a village that has no books," Dean said. "They get to deliver their book box, spend

"They will give up that Starbucks coffee every day as opposed to giving up that trip."

Jeff Duford

the afternoon with the children and really get to meet them." The company is still in its early days, with just three staff planning around 10 to 20 customized trips a month that are priced around \$2,500 to \$3,500 US a person, but Dean said the

market is growing. "That baby-boomer generation, they're very conscious. Many of them are seeing success and wealth beyond what they would ever have expected," Dean said.

Jeff Duford, sales manager for G.A.P. Adventures which offers "responsible and sustainable" adventure travel in more than 100 countries, said there had been steady growth in the market for five years.

He said the kind of traveler who visits a developing country with G.A.P. was one who considered such travel a central part of their lifestyle, and was determined to go even in hard economic times. "They will give up that Starbucks coffee every day as opposed to giving up that trip."

One company seeking to ease the pain at a time of rising unemployment is Intrepid, an adventure travel firm that has come up with a special offer called Laid Off, Take Off, a 15 per cent discount for the newly unemployed.

The company's web site urges people to take advantage of a bad situation, saying: "When the going gets tough, the tough get traveling."

REUTERS



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Canada

Birthday bash

Kristy Swanson and Lloyd Eisler, who tied the knot this month, threw another party over the weekend — son Magnus' two-year-old birthday bash. Guests gathered Sunday in L.A. for cupcakes and entertainment by The Jumpitz. PEOPLE.COM

15

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Location, location

Cameron Diaz and British model Paul Sculfor are reportedly scouring the English countryside for the perfect place to tie the knot according to femalefirst.co.uk.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Oscar's biggest blunders

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Like it or not the Oscars are coming on Sunday. The annual event might give Hollywood's biggest stars a chance to wear expensive clothing, but the awards should never be taken seriously as an accurate representation of the best films in any year.

The Academy is a very political beast and the decisions are rarely made for artistic merit. With that in mind, we present a list of Oscar's biggest blunders to help you curb your expectations for Sunday's extravaganza.

NO LOVE FOR HITCHCOCK OR KUBRICK: Stanley Kubrick and Alfred Hitchcock are universally regarded as two of the finest directors of all time, but not according to

**The 81st Annual
Academy Awards**

the Academy. Neither auteur took home a best director statue during their illustrious careers. The only time they were honoured was when Hitchcock got an apologetic career achievement award and Kubrick picked up a special effects statue for 2001. Mel Gibson does have a best director Oscar though. Apparently he's way better than those guys.

CITIZEN KANE IGNORED: Orson Welles' masterful debut is routinely labelled "the greatest film ever made," but it got snubbed on Oscar night in 1941. The Academy decided to honour John Ford's forgettable *How Green Was My Valley* instead. Welles went



Alfred Hitchcock is regarded as one of the finest directors of all time, but he never took home the Oscar for best director.

on to become a legend, but was never even nominated for a little gold dude again.

SCORSESE'S SNUB STREAK: Martin Scorsese may have finally gotten an Oscar for *The Departed*, but it was only after all of his best work was ignored. Scorsese had to see *Taxi Driver*

lose best picture to *Rocky* and lose best director to Robert Redford and Kevin

ART CARNEY'S BEST ACTOR

WIN: Art Carney won the 1974 best actor statue for a movie in which he travelled the country with his cat. Now, that decision is offensive enough on its own, but it's even worse when you consider that he beat out Al Pacino for *The Godfather Part II*, Jack Nicholson for *Chinatown*, and Dustin Hoffman for *Lenny*. Those are three of the best actors of their generation giving three of

their greatest performances. If he'd beaten even one of them it would have been a travesty. The fact that he beat them all is a tragedy.

FORREST GUMP BEATS PULP FICTION:

FICTION: In 1994 this decision seemed to make sense. Today, *Pulp Fiction* posters still fill dorm room walls and the only time *Forrest Gump* comes up is when the title is used as a punchline for a joke about the worst representation of the mentally handicapped on screen. Smooth move Academy.

Recession takes little sheen off Oscar

MOVIES Whether it's the recession, the age of Obama or the fact a hopeful movie is favoured to win best film at Sunday's Oscars, it's clear that change has come to Hollywood.

Movie fans and critics have escaped the gloomy economy by seeking out Academy Award front-runner *Slumdog Millionaire*, a rags-to-riches romance about a poor, young Indian man on an odds-defying quest on a television game show.

Slumdog follows two straight years of dark crime

"A lot of the glamour associated with the Oscars is still there but it's tempered by the economic times."

Leeza Gibbons

dramas — *No Country for Old Men* and *The Departed* — winning the world's top film honor, the Oscar, for best motion picture.

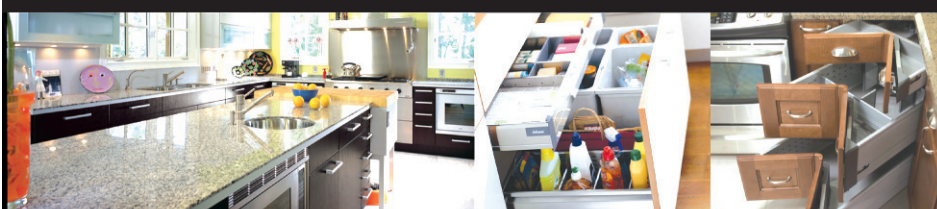
Party planners and caterers say plans for Oscar festivities have slowed ahead

of the Oscar show. Celebrity gift-getting suites are open for business but organizers say giving back seems to be more of a priority among the stars.

"Obama asked us for a day of service and we're asking for a night to make a difference," celebrity talk show hostess Leeza Gibbons said.

Gibbons and singer Olivia Newton-John are hosting an Oscar night benefit for Gibbons' Memory Foundation and Newton-John's Cancer and Wellness Centre. **REUTERS**

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Michael Jackson is reportedly selling personal items including his famous jewelled white glove and a robotic head. The pop icon is holding a five-day public auction at the Beverly Hilton hotel in Los Angeles in April. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

In brief

PEOPLE Rap music mogul Marion (Suge) Knight was treated in the hospital for facial injuries after being injured in a fight at a local hotel, Scottsdale police said Monday. Security at the W hotel in the

city near Phoenix called police after two groups of guests exchanged "heated words in the VIP area." Shortly after officers arrived, they saw a man punch Knight, 43, twice in the head, police said. **REUTERS**

Designer flops in fashion flashback

RAFAEL BRUSLOW
for Metro Canada



Last night's Project Runway Canada episode proved that if you want to be a clothing designer, it pays to know the fashion

world's history.

The designers were put in teams of three and asked to create a couture mini-collection inspired by the design spirit of an iconic fashion brand. The first two groups picked Valentino and Versace while Barrie, Ont. designer Brandon R. Dwyer's group chose Yves Saint Laurent, a French designer considered one of the 20th century's most influential figures in fashion for his gender-bending, innovative outfits.

Dwyer, 23, quickly told his group he had no idea who Laurent was, starting a downward spiral that culminated in show host Iman telling Dwyer that his frilly shirt and deliberately mismatched pants "desecrated Mr. Saint Laurent."

Panel judge and Elle Canada editor-in-chief Rita Silvan chose slightly more diplomatic words.

"If you don't know much about Yves Saint Laurent, how can you be a fashion designer?" Silvan asked.

With that Dwyer was sent home and he still strongly believes the faux pas was the main reason he got cut.

"As soon as I got home I checked out all (Yves Saint Laurent's) collections. He's someone who made a huge impact in the fashion industry."

Brandon R. Dwyer, Project Runway contestant



Barrie, Ont., designer Brandon R. Dwyer was sent home from Project Runway Canada last night.

"I think not knowing YSL was a huge factor because Iman had a huge spaz when I mentioned it. I felt there were garments that were a lot weaker than mine," Dwyer said.

Since leaving the show, Dwyer has taken some time to read up on the legendary designer.

"As soon as I got home I checked out all his collections. He's someone who made a huge impact in the fashion industry," Dwyer said.

Trying to design an outfit in the style of a designer he'd never heard of before was definitely challenging for Dwyer. "It was hard to concentrate on the actual

garment, so that made the challenge really difficult," he said.

Now that Dwyer is off the show he'll focus on his eponymous clothing line — Brandon R Dwyer — and go back to making the types of clothes he likes design.

"The stuff I did for the show is not necessarily anything I'd do in real life. My stuff is very avant-garde," Dwyer said.

when to watch

- Project Runway Canada airs Tuesday nights at 10 p.m. ET on Global.

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Timberlake and Biel moving to the city
Looks like Justin Timberlake and girlfriend Jessica Biel will be full-time residents of New York City soon. The pair, who were spotted apartment-hunting back in September, have reportedly settled on a lovely \$2.9-million US Chelsea duplex, according to Us Weekly. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Lost and Idol do TV battle Wednesday

The Fox network is shaking up Wednesday night by swapping reality hit American Idol and the new police procedural Lie to Me.

Once the singing competition moves into the finals March 11, Fox will pivot Idol to 9 p.m. EST, turning its ratings Death Star against ABC's Lost for the rest of season.

The Tim Roth-starring Lie to Me will stay out of the way by shifting to 8 p.m.

Though Idol and Lost tend to have different audiences, last week Fox aired a two-hour Idol that stretched into the 9 p.m. hour and seemed to take a little steam out of the mystery thriller, whose ratings have fallen with each episode this season.

For Lie, the move is a mixed blessing. The drama won't have nearly as much competition at 8 p.m. Wednesday, but it won't have Idol for a lead-in either.

This is the first time in two years that Lost has faced Idol.

REUTERS

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt

Read the latest fashion news, including New York Fashion Week highlights, at metronews.ca/globalstyle

Entertainment in brief

TELEVISION AMC and Sony have launched online minisodes for the Emmy-winning series Breaking Bad to promote the show's upcoming second-season premiere. The

five-minute stand-alone shorts will feature the show's regular cast, and began debuting yesterday on AMC's site and crackle.com. The minisodes are one of three digital extensions for

the drama, which returns March 8.

NEWS Longtime ABC News correspondent Sam Donaldson is easing quietly into part-time

work. The 74-year-old journalist, who was the network's chief White House correspondent from 1977 to 1989, is leaving full-time work later this month. Donaldson, who says

he's not retiring but "cutting back," told the Washington Post that he didn't ask for a new contract when his last one was due for renewal late last year.

REUTERS

| OT | Vu | SC | C | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| 2/18/09 | 265 | 353 | 2 | TVO | Martin Clunes: Man and Dogs | The Agenda With Steve Paikin | Little Dorrit (N) | The View From Here (N) | | Agenda-Paikin | | |
| | 211 | 331 | 3 | GTV | ET Canada | Entertainment | Bones (HDTV PA) (N) | Lie to Me "Love Always" | | (10:02) Life on Mars | | |
| | - | - | 5 | SRC | Virginie (SC) | L'Épicerie | Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC) | Les Invincibles (N) (SC) | | Le Téléjournal et Les Nou | | |
| | 209 | 342 | 6 | CHRO | Instant Star | TMZ (N) | Lost (HDTV) | Lost "316" (N) | | Law & Order "Rapture" | | |
| | 196 | 311 | 7 | CTV | Hollywood | etalk | American Idol | Criminal Minds (N) | | CSI: NY (HDTV) (N) | | |
| | 208 | 303 | 8 | CBC | Coronation St. | Jeopardy! (N) | The Week the Women Went | Being Erica (N) (DVS) | | CBC News: The National | | |
| | - | 360 | 9 | NBC | Wheel-Fortune | Jeopardy! (N) | Knight Rider (HDTV) (N) | Life "I Heart Mom" (N) | | Law & Order "Rapture" | | |
| | 117 | 713 | 10 | TVA | Poule-oeufs or | Star Académie: | Destinées (HDTV) (N) (SC) | Dommages et intérêts (SC) | | TVA 22 heures (10:45) Denis Lévesque | | |
| | - | - | 11 | QS | 450 chemin | Rire et délire | Wipeout (SC) | Bob Gratton | | Cent dix pour cent (SC) | | |
| | 137 | 763 | 12 | TFO | Panorama | Destination Nor'Ouest 2 | L'Exil du roi Béhanzin (1994, Drame) | Bob Gratton | | Nouv. mondes | | |
| news | - | 362 | 13 | CBS | Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N) | Old Christine | Gary Unmarr | Criminal Minds (N) | | CSI: NY (HDTV) (N) | | |
| | 216 | 395 | 14 | OMN2 | Raymond | Raymond | News (N) | News (N) | | Two/Half Men | | |
| | 214 | 344 | 15 | CITY | Law & Order: SVU | 13: Fear Is Real "Alone" | Hates Chris | Friends | | I Love Money | | |
| | 115 | 343 | 16 | CFMT | Two-Half Men | The Simpsons | Vivere II | News (N) | | The Simpsons | | |
| | 218 | 345 | 18 | E! | The Insider (N) | E! News | Knight Rider (HDTV) (N) | Party Monsters: Cabo (N) | | Carmen Electra: THS | | |
| | - | 361 | 20 | ABC | News (N) | Entertainment | Lost (HDTV) | Lost "316" (N) | | (10:02) Life on Mars | | |
| | 512 | 396 | 24 | CPAC | (5) Dossier public | L'Heure politique | Border by a Border | Podium | | Tête-à-tête | | |
| | 651 | 355 | 25 | CTS | Happy Days | Laverne | Michael Coren Show | 100 Huntley Street | | Life Today | | |
| | - | 365 | 36 | FOX | TMZ (N) | Seinfeld | American Idol | Lie to Me "Love Always" | | News (N) | | |
| | - | - | 64 | BTV | Business Rpt. | Drum TV | An Evening With Eartha Kitt | American Masters (HDTV) (N) | | CSI: NY (HDTV) (N) | | |
| sports | 205 | 312 | 104 | CTV | Hollywood | etalk | American Idol | Criminal Minds (N) | | CSI: NY (HDTV) (N) | | |
| | 502 | 390 | 26 | NW | CBC News | Business | Politics With Don Newman | CBC News: The National | | Animal Takeover (N) | | |
| | 500 | 500 | 33 | CNN | Lou Dobbs Tonight | Campbell Brown: No Bias | Larry King Live | Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) | | Sportsnet Connected | | |
| | 406 | 417 | 27 | net | World Combat League | The Ultimate Fighter | Best Damn Sports Show | SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live) | | Hockey Central | | |
| | 126 | 730 | 28 | RDI | 24 Heures en 60 minutes | Grands reportages (SC) | Le Téléjournal (SC) | RDI en direct | | Le National | | |
| | 400 | 280 | 30 | TSN | That's Hockey! | NHL Hockey | Montreal Canadiens at Washington Capitals. (HDTV) (Live) | Poker Million Pound Challenge. | | Score Tonight | | |
| | 410 | 403 | 52 | SCR | College Basketball | Notre Dame at West Virginia. (Live) | Survivorman | Mantracker | | Bounty Hunter | | |
| | 411 | 457 | 56 | OLN | Bounty Hunter | Bounty Hunter | Pinks Outtakes | Pinks (HDTV) | | Drag Race | | |
| | 417 | 406 | 59 | SC | Pimp My Ride | Pass Time (N) | Pinks Outtakes | Pinks (HDTV) | | Wrecked | | |
| | 554 | 544 | 48 | TEL | Totally Spies | Total Drama | 6TEEN | Futurama | | Robot Chicken | | |
| family | 557 | 540 | 51 | FAM | Wizards-Place | Han. Montana | Zack & Cody | Wizards-Place | | Father of Pride | | |
| | 551 | 542 | 65 | YTV | Prank Patrol | Prank Patrol | Malcolm-Mid. | Futurama | | Ned's School | | |
| | 570 | 580 | 29 | MM | mmmtop | MusicProfile | Where You At | Revival | | Confessions of a Teen Idol | | |
| | 615 | 520 | 31 | A&E | CSI: Miami "The Score" | Bounty Hunter | Bounty Hunter | Bounty Hunter | | Bounty Hunter | | |
| | 628 | 584 | 32 | SPKE | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | UFC's Ultimate Fight Night | Incredibly Small | | Mystery Diagnosis | | |
| | 521 | 560 | 34 | TLC | Untold Stories of the E.R. | My Shocking Story | Cinéma à communiquer | About a Girl | | Peur | | |
| | 145 | 761 | 35 | TV5 | Humanima | Mixeur | Arts & Minds | Bravo!Videos | | Death at-Opera | | |
| | 616 | 521 | 39 | SHO | The Outer Limits | Landscapes | Austin Stevens Adventures (N) | Reba | | Mayday "Ghost Plane" | | |
| | 620 | 523 | 40 | BVO | The Achievers | Landscapes | Home Improve. | Home Improve. | | Hope & Faith | | |
| | 520 | 505 | 42 | DIS | Daily Planet (N) | CMT's Greatest "Interviews" | Chop Shop (N) | Mr. Friday | | Kimora: Fab | | |
| cable variety | 575 | 583 | 43 | CMT | CMT's Greatest "Interviews" | Chop Shop (N) | Mr. Friday | Real Housewives of OC | | Jon Dore Show | | |
| | 601 | 562 | 45 | SLC | Til Debt-Part | Rich Poor | Chop Shop (N) | Mr. Friday | | Demetri Martin | | |
| | 625 | 548 | 46 | COM | Air Farce | Just for Laughs | Corner Gas | The Simpsons | | Seinfeld | | |
| | 294 | 529 | 47 | TBS | House-Payne | House-Payne | The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (1992, Suspense) | Seinfeld | | Family Guy | | |
| | 600 | 564 | 49 | H&G | House Hunters | Property Virgin | Mansions | Property Shop | | Hid Potential | | |
| | 627 | 528 | 50 | SPC | Stargate Atlantis | (DVS) | Lost "Homecoming" | Star Trek: Voyager | | Rabbit Fall | | |
| | 581 | 566 | 53 | MTV | Play'd | After | MTV News | Cribs | | The Real World (N) | | |
| | 618 | 524 | 54 | TROP | Reality | Ad Persuasion | Family Guy | Seinfeld | | Family Guy | | |
| | 522 | 506 | 55 | HIS | NCIS "The Curse" | Cities of the Underworld | Museum Mysteries-World | S O S (HDTV) | | Crimes passionnels (HDTV) | | |
| | 129 | 773 | 60 | CD | Biographies "Hilary Swank" | Mythes urbains | Mythes urbains | SOUL "Twice" (N) | | Tuscany | | |
| cable variety | 261 | 394 | 61 | V | Murder, She Wrote | Summer Wine | Dinnerladies | How Clean | | Maxed Out (N) | | |
| | 602 | 567 | 62 | W | Will & Grace | Friends | Grocery | Grocery | | Maxed Out | | |
| | 269 | 350 | 70 | APTN | Canadian Geographic | Reel Insights | Blush: Make-Up Artist | The Tonight Show-Jay Leno | | Wings-Canada | | |
| | 621 | 527 | 71 | TLK | The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N) | TMZ (N) | etalk | Iron Chef America | | Top Chef (Part 1 of 2) Final challenges. | | |
| | 603 | 561 | 95 | FN | Chef at Home | Chef at Home | Restaurant Makeover | Iron Chef America | | Top Chef (Part 1 of 2) Final challenges. | | |
| | 603 | 561 | 95 | FN | Chef at Home | Chef at Home | Restaurant Makeover | Iron Chef America | | Top Chef (Part 1 of 2) Final challenges. | | |
| | 603 | 561 | 95 | FN | Chef at Home | Chef at Home | Restaurant Makeover | Iron Chef America | | Top Chef (Part 1 of 2) Final challenges. | | |
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| | 603 | 561 | 95 | FN | Chef at Home | Chef at Home | Restaurant Makeover | Iron Chef America | | Top Chef (Part 1 of 2) Final challenges. | | |

critics'corner

Corner Gas

"Mandelbaum! Mandelbaum!" Oops, sorry, that was "Seinfeld." But "Physical Credit" may put you in mind of the time an elderly fitness trainer went to work on Jerry. In this case, it's Oscar (Eric Peterson), who makes Davis (Lorne Cardinal) his fitness protegee. Wanda (Nancy Robertson) is miffed when Hank (Fred Ewanuick) is approved for a credit card she can't get. Brent and Lacey (Brent Butt, Gabrielle Miller) compete over a secret. 11:30 AM on 46 COM



The View From Here

At a time when "urban renewal" often meant "urban removal" — the gutting of whole neighborhoods, Jane Jacobs was a voice of dissent. But when people listened to her ideas, they liked what they heard: a vision of urban neighborhoods that were diversely populated and designed for people, not cars. The new documentary "Urban Goddess: Jane Jacobs Reconsidered" examines the influence of her ideas on re-development disputes in New York and Toronto. 10 PM on 2 TVO



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Roseanne Barr has taken to her blog to comment on Chris Brown's alleged assault of girlfriend Rihanna, saying his "lies and excuses" sound "just like every sleazy bastard who ever smacked his wife, kid, mother or girlfriend." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Madonna brainwashing my son: Model's mother

PEOPLE Not only is Madonna, 50, old enough to be boy-toy Jesus Luz's mother, she's old enough to be the 22-year-old's grandmother, wonderwall.com reports.

The New York Post reports that Luz already has a grandma, and she is around 50 years old, too. Meanwhile, Luz's mom, Cristiane Regina da Silva, a hairdresser in Brazil, is apparently 14 years younger than Madonna and believes the pop icon has kidnapped

and brainwashed her son. Luz's whole family (and trail of ex-girlfriends) back in



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Brazil are apparently upset he spent Christmas in the Maldives with Madge, and the Brazilian media are claiming that her PR people confiscated his cellphone. Apparently the Luz clan, all devout Christians, are worried that Jesus will be lured into Kabbalah. He's already dropped the 40 Graus Modelos modeling agency back in his homeland to join Ford Models in New York, if that's any indication of his burgeoning commitment to Madonna, the website adds.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Leave Jessica alone: Jennifer

PEOPLE Jennifer Love Hewitt wishes people would stop debating Jessica Simpson's weight, usmagazine.com reports.

"I wish they would leave her alone," she said.

Her message to Simpson? "Ignore it, live your life and be happy."

Hewitt — who was famously mocked in 2007 when photos surfaced of her curvy figure in a bikini — told Us she is tired of the "unreasonable" Hollywood standards when it comes to weight.

"We're all supposed to look how we're supposed to look. We're made to be different people."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Lindsay talks Big Macs and weight rumours

PEOPLE Lindsay Lohan insists she loves Big Macs, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress has sparked concerns for her health after being pictured with an increasingly skinny frame, but has blamed her slim physique on her hectic work schedule.

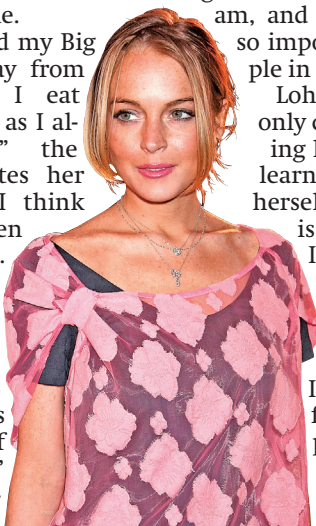
"I eat. I had my Big Mac yesterday from McDonald's. I eat just as much as I always have," the website quotes her as saying. "I think I've just been working a lot. It's just down to stress and lack of sleep when I travel. I think it's all that stuff that adds up." The 22-

year-old star won't listen to criticism about her weight, adding she doesn't want to be pressured into looking a certain way.

"I'm my own person, and people can say whatever they want. I'm still going to be the person that I am, and I think that's so important for people in Hollywood."

Lohan added she only cares about being happy and has learned to accept herself the way she is: "I think that I don't ever want to pretend to be something that I'm not. I'm not perfect, nobody is perfect."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



No romance, Katy says

RUMOUR Katy Perry has denied that she is seeing Benji Madden, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer sparked rumours she was dating the Good Charlotte rocker when they were spotted enjoying a cozy evening in Las Vegas on Valentine's Day, but she insists they are just friends.

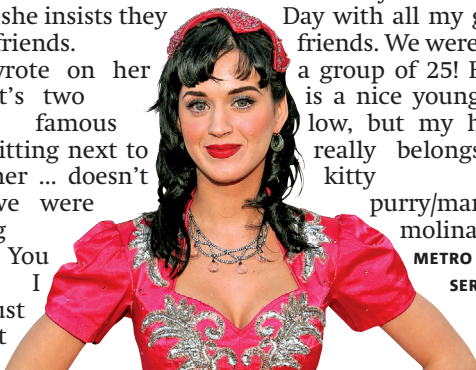
She wrote on her blog: "It's two pseudo famous people sitting next to each other ... doesn't mean we were bumping uglies. You know I don't just do that

with anyone."

The 24-year-old singer explained she was celebrating the romantic day with a group of friends.

Admitting she only has time for her pet cat, she wrote: "I was there celebrating a really fun show and a boozy Valentine's Day with all my good friends. We were like a group of 25! Benji is a nice young fellow, but my heart really belongs to kitty purry/markus molinari."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Jen and John's V-Day trip

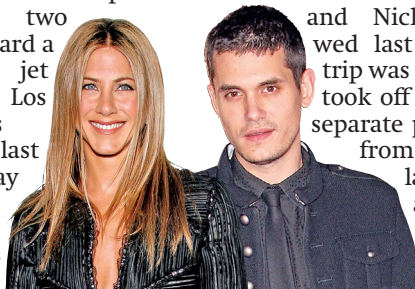
RELATIONSHIP Jennifer Aniston and John Mayer celebrated Valentine's Day with a trip to the Bahamas, usmagazine.com reports. The vacation was a present from Mayer, x17online.com reports.

The two left aboard a private jet from Los Angeles late last Thursday night — a day af-

ter Aniston's 40th birthday — and arrived on the island of Eleuthera the next morning, according to x17.

They stayed in a gated, luxurious home on the north of the island — where Mariah Carey and Nick Cannon wed last year. The trip was short: Both took off Monday in separate private jets from the island's main airport.

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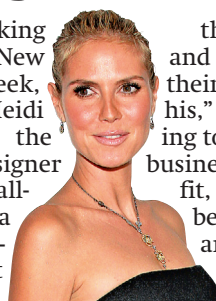


Klum shrugs off 'fat' comment

CRITICISM While taking a break from New York Fashion Week, supermodel Heidi Klum addressed the hubbub over designer Wolfgang Joop calling her fat. "It's a life where everyone can say what

they want to say and everyone can have their opinion — that is his," she said, according to In Touch. "In this business you have to be fit, but I always try to be a good role model and not too thin."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Motherhood a time-thief: Julia

FAMILY As a full-time stay-at-home mom for the past year, Julia Roberts says life outside the Hollywood spotlight has been anything but uneventful — thanks to her three kids with husband Danny Moder, people.com reports.

"Danny and I talk about, 'What did we do with all the time we must have had?'" she tells Allure in its March issue. "Because you don't recognize it as such, until you have all these little ...

time thieves running around your house."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Josh and Fergie on honeymoon No. 2?

MARRIAGE Less than one month after their tropical getaway to the Maldives, Josh Duhamel and Fergie jettied off to the Mayan Riviera in Mexico for another romantic vacation last weekend, this time to attend the wedding of a friend, people.com reports.

As if on a second honeymoon, a source said the couple enjoyed "lots of outdoor activities, including sunbathing, snorkling, visiting the lowland rainforest and several historic Maya sites."

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with the
Kardashians

Tonight 10:30

Rogers 45 | Bell TV 601 | Star Choice 562

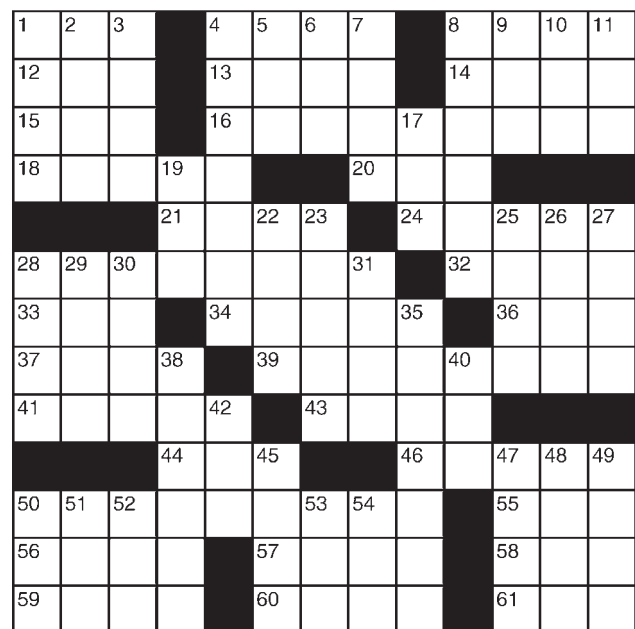
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Take Five



Crossword across

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Lawyers' org. | 36 Prior night |
| 4 Bob or Elizabeth | 37 Collections |
| 8 Lather | 39 Risked |
| 12 Pistol | 41 Baghdad resident |
| 13 "Metamorphoses" poet | 43 Make (one's way) |
| 14 Contemporary coin | 44 Multi-purpose truck |
| 15 "Guinness Book" suffix | 46 Refuge |
| 16 Quarantine facility | 50 Mideast region |
| 18 Filch | 55 Sapporo sash |
| 20 Unruly group | 56 Culture medium |
| 21 Apprehends | 57 — and void |
| 24 Redden | 58 Suitable |
| 28 Jesus' home | 59 Info |
| 32 Birthright barterer | 60 With skill |
| 33 "— Got a Secret" | 61 Fool |
| 34 Knapsack part | |

Crossword down

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Forever, it seems | 22 "Little Women" woman | 40 Vitamin amt. |
| 2 Bankrupt | 23 Milkshake | 42 "— Impossible" |
| 3 Initial stake | insert | 45 Italian |
| 4 Moolah | 25 Secondhand | volcano |
| 5 Eggs | 26 Rescue | 47 Parlor piece |
| 6 Claiborne of fashion | 27 Coloured | 48 Wading bird |
| 7 Dutch cheese | 28 Unless (Latin) | 49 Perches |
| 8 Weak | 29 State with certainty | 50 Wander about |
| 9 No longer chic | 30 Catherine — Jones | 51 Past |
| 10 Illustrations | 31 Visibility | 52 Use a ray-gun |
| 11 Cattle call | hindrance | 53 Massage |
| 17 Lowe or Morrow | 35 Magnificent array | 54 Under the weather |
| 19 Santa —, Calif. | 38 Uncool | |

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 |
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 7 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 |
| 4 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 |
| 3 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 2 |
| 9 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 6 |

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SUDOKU SOLVE TIME: | 17-21 min | Smart |
| Under 13 min | 21-25 min | Not bad |
| 13-17 min | 25+ min | Keep practising |

Metro Recipe of the Day



Fusilli and Meatballs

INGREDIENTS:

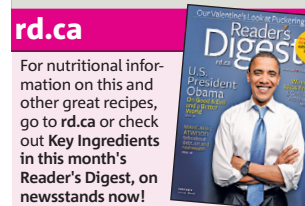
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 796-ml can no-salt-added Italian tomatoes
- 796-ml can no-salt-added whole tomatoes in purée
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) chopped fresh basil
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh oregano or 1 tsp (5 ml) dried
- 2 slices firm-textured white bread
- 1 lb (500 g) lean (93%) ground beef
- 1 large egg
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) reduced-fat milk (2%)
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) black pepper
- 12 oz (375 g) long fusilli

METHOD:

- Coat large pot with non-stick cooking spray and set over medium-high heat. Sauté onion and garlic until soft, about 5 minutes. Transfer 2 tbsp (25 ml) onion mixture to large bowl.
- Process Italian and whole tomatoes in food processor until fairly smooth. Add to pot. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Reduce

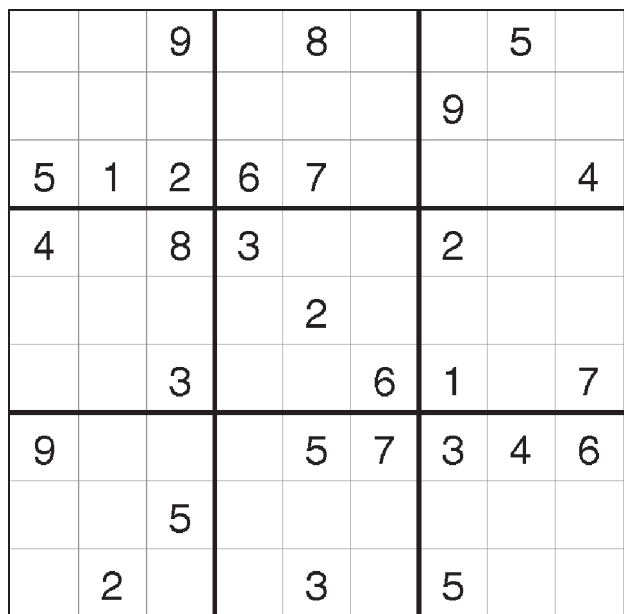
- heat to medium-low. Cover and simmer, stirring often, 30 minutes. Add basil and oregano during the last 15 minutes.
- Process bread until crumbs form. Add crumbs, beef, egg, milk, salt, and black pepper to onion mixture and mix just until blended. Shape into twenty 1-in. (2.5-cm) meatballs. Coat medium skillet with nonstick cooking spray and set over medium-high heat. Cook meatballs in batches until browned on all sides, about 8 minutes.
- Drain on paper towels. Add meatballs to sauce. Cover and cook, stirring occasionally, 20 minutes.
- Meanwhile, cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and toss with 1 1/2 cups sauce in large heated serving bowl. Spoon 1 cup (250 ml) sauce over pasta. Serve meatballs and remaining sauce alongside.

SERVES 6



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Someone with a hidden agenda speaks of the future. Don't let your hot-headedness go beyond good taste. A wonderful transformation is coming.



TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Don't let pride stand in the way of understanding. Difficulties that flare can be resolved with care. Maintain a flexible attitude in groups.



GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Concentrate on a business that has good chances. Don't take on any risks. Before leaving a difficult situation, take stock of the benefits.



LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Encourage a meddler to be more sincere. A private fantasy will become more exhilarating. An interesting man takes pleasure in your company.



SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Someone's laziness will enrage a female. Teach others to face trouble as it comes up. Someone will love you when they know you better.



SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Find time to have fun with the people you love. A chat will clear the air. An untrustworthy person is acting on your behalf.



CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A friend leaves an unhappy marriage. Profits gained through unethical dealings melt away. A nitpicker learns from other people's heated reactions.



CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A woman wants more kindness than you can give. Express your feelings with passion. A surprising shift will take place within your family.



LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Stash your belongings in safe place. You'll be frustrated when you're forced to confront a noisy bore. Show compassion before casting blame.



AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A friendship develops for very complicated reasons. Hints of your future power in a relationship will come. Someone returns early from a trip.



VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
While seeking information, you'll have to give directions. Pretending that you don't care won't work. You'll avoid the mess of impulsive deeds.



PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Someone's honour will please you. A disappointment affects your chance to succeed. A dramatic spat shouldn't be allowed to get worse.



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Limited model shown

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